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THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON

JUN 30 1959

McElroy, Neil H.
4935

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FILE

Dear Mr. Secretary:

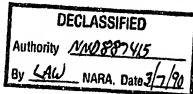
As you are aware, General Norstad has for some time been deeply concerned about the refusal of the French Government to permit the storage of nuclear weapons in France in support of the three Air Force wings of F-100 aircraft presently stationed in France in support of NATO.

Accordingly, on 24 June 1959, he recommended that the Joint Chiefs of Staff approve the CINCUSAFE plan for redeployment of nine USAF strike squadrons from France. This plan involves deployment of six of these squadrons to bases in Germany and three to bases in the United Kingdom. In addition, one wing of RB-66 Aircraft will be moved from Germany to the United Kingdom.

I have approved a recommendation by the Joint Chiefs of Staff that this redeployment plan be implemented. Accordingly, it is requested that the Department of State:

- a. Obtain from the Governments of the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany, the necessary clearances and agreements;
- b. Request that the Government of France release the U.S. Government from the obligations to pay guarantee rentals on facilities which may be vacated as a result of this redeployment; and
- c. Notify the Department of Defense upon completion of necessary arrangements with the Governments of the United Kingdom and the Federal Republic of Germany.

I am sure you will agree that prompt action is needed to permit General Norstad to implement his redeployment plan as soon as possible. Your cooperation in this endeavor will be deeply appreciated.



Sincerely yours,

Neil H. McElroy

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The Honorable

The Secretary of State

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